

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: CLEMENS JUNG ET AL.

For: METHOD OF OPERATING A DISHWASHER WITH A CENTRAL CONTROL UNIT

Serial No.: 10/714,110

Examiner: Stephen K. Ko

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Group Art Unit: 1792

Atty. Docket: IT20030039

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance issued concurrently with the Notice of Allowance on December 7, 2009. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not accurately described the features of Applicants' independent claim when characterizing Applicants' invention.

Specifically, independent claim 21 recites a method of cleaning dishes in a dishwasher in accordance with a programmed wash cycle implemented by a central control unit and comprising a rinse step where a rinse liquid is recirculated in the dishwasher and a cleaning step where a wash liquid is recirculated in the dishwasher, the method comprising: determining a solubility of soil on the dishes to be cleaned by determining at least one of a temperature of the rinse liquid, and a length of time for a turbidity of the rinse liquid to stop increasing during the rinse step by determining from a turbidity sensor a difference in turbidity measurements associated with a selective operation of an upper spray device and a lower spray device; and setting at least one operating parameter of the cleaning step based on the determined solubility.

To avoid confusion and to clearly identify the different combinations of the features of Applicants' invention which has been allowed by the Examiner, Applicants respectfully suggest that Applicants' invention be defined as being allowable over the prior art of record as the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the combinations of steps set forth in independent claim 21.

Respectfully submitted,

CLEMENS JUNG ET AL.

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